COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the *19th February 1934.* / *8th of Kumbham 1109.*

The House met for the Second meeting of the Legislative Session of 1109 in the Town Hall, Ernakulam, on Monday, the 19th February 1934, at half-past eleven of the clock, with C. G. Herbert Esq. I.C.S., the Diwan of Cochin in the Chair. Messrs K. M. Ibrahim, A. I. Mani, K. Mohamed Seethi, C. A. Ouseph, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan and A. R. Menon were absent.

Opening Statement by the President.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Council! It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this meeting of the Council. A considerable volume of important business is before the Council. There will be no demands for supplementary grants, because they have not been placed before the Standing Finance Committee. But apart from that, there are various resolutions and some very important legislative measures for consideration. I hope that in dealing with this business I shall receive, as I have always received, the co-operation of all Hon'ble Members in discharging the duties of the Chair.

Questions and Answers.

Steps taken to reduce expenditure.

165. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what steps were taken by the Government in the last three years to retrench expenditure;

(b) what amount was saved annually by such measures of retrenchment;

(c) whether the Government have called for reports from Heads of departments in the aforesaid period suggesting ways and means for reducing expenditure in their department; and if so,

(d) whether reports received be printed and placed on the table;

(e) whether their suggestions were given effect to?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—(a) Temporary establishments have been reduced to bare necessities in all depart-

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